





N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	Augustinus F.H. Basstein
Serial No. 09/992,509	Filing Date: November 6, 2001
Title of Application	Tandweiloverbrenging

Assistant Commissioner for Patents · Washington, DC 20231

Preliminary Amendment

Dear Sir:

Amendment Revisions

Please substitute claims 1 - 10 with the following claims 1 - 10.

Clean Version of each Replacement Paragraph/Section/Claim

1. A gear transmission comprising: a first shaft (45), an intermediate shaft (44) which is parallel to the first shaft, a first cylindrical pinion (6) having a first set of teeth and which is mounted to rotate with the first shaft, a second cylindrical pinion (6) having a second set of teeth and mounted to rotate with the intermediate shaft, the

<u>Mailing Certificate</u>: I hereby certify that this correspondence is today being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as *First Class Mail* in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks; Washington, DC 20231.

March 15, 2002

Caroline Gahagan

Page 2 Serial No. 09/992,509 March 15, 2002

first and second sets of teeth of the first cylindrical pinion and the second cylindrical pinion having the same number of teeth and the same diameter and meshing with one another, a third cylindrical pinion (5) which is mounted to rotate with the first shaft, a fourth cylindrical pinion (5) which is mounted to rotate with the first shaft, a fifth cylindrical pinion (5) which is mounted to rotate with the intermediate shaft, the sets of teeth of the third cylindrical pinion and the fourth cylindrical pinion having the same number of teeth and the same diameter, a double-toothed face gear (38) mounted between and respectively meshing with the sets of teeth of the third cylindrical pinion and the fourth cylindrical pinion, the double-toothed face gear being able to rotate about a second shaft which forms an angle with the first shaft, wherein the double-toothed face gear (38) is provided with coupling teeth (39) for slideably coupling the rotation of the double-toothed face gear (38) to the rotation of the second shaft, and the direction of the coupling teeth being perpendicular to a plane of the coupling teeth of the double-toothed face gear.

- 2. The gear transmission as claimed in claim 1, wherein the double-toothed face gear has the shape of a ring with face-gear teeth on sides thereof and with the coupling teeth on an internal diameter.
- 3. The gear transmission as claimed in claim 2, wherein the internal diameter of sets of face-gear teeth of the double-toothed face gear corresponds to an internal diameter of the ring.
- 4. The gear transmission as claimed in claim 1 wherein the length of the coupling toothing is greater than half the width of the sets of face gear teeth of the double-toothed face gear.
- 5. The gear transmission as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the sets of face gear teeth of the double-toothed face gear match one another,

Page 3 Serial No. 09/992,509 March 15, 2002

ج. ۔

and spaces between the teeth and the teeth are symmetrical with respect to a plane which lies centrally between the sets of teeth of the face gear teeth.

- 6. The gear transmission as claimed in claim 2, wherein the ring has a thickness of at least four times the tooth height of one of the sets of teeth of the double-toothed face gear.
- 7. The gear transmission as claimed in claim 1, wherein the third and fourth cylindrical pinions (5) and the double-toothed face gear (38) are helically toothed, and the third and fourth pinions are both either right-hand or left-hand pinions.
- 8. The gear transmission as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cylindrical pinions (5,6) are helically toothed, and the first and second cylindrical pinions are right-hand pinions when the third and fourth cylindrical pinions mounted on the same shaft are right-hand pinions, and are left-hand pinions when the third and fourth cylindrical pinions are left-hand pinions.
- 9. The gear transmission as claimed in claim 8, wherein pitches of cylindrical pinions mounted on the same shaft are identical.

10. The gear transmission as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the double-toothed face gear (38) is slideably mounted on a housing of a differential of a vehicle.

Respectfully submitted,

Louis H. Reens, Registration/No. 22,588

Attorney for Applicant

ST.ONGE STEWARD JOHNSTON & REENS LLC

986 Bedford Street

Stamford, CT 06905-5619

203 324-6155

Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

- 1. A Ggear transmission comprising: a first shaft (45), an intermediate shaft (44) which is parallel to the first shaft, a first cylindrical pinion (6) having a first set of teeth and which can is mounted to rotate with the first shaft, a second cylindrical pinion (6) having a second set of teeth and mounted to which can rotate with the intermediate shaft, the first and second sets of teeth toothing of the first cylindrical pinion and the second cylindrical pinion having the same number of teeth and the same diameter and meshing with one another, a third cylindrical pinion (5) which is mounted to can rotate with the first shaft, a fourth cylindrical pinion (5) which is mounted to can rotate with the first shaft, a fifth fourth cylindrical pinion (5) which is mounted to can rotate with the intermediate shaft, the sets of teeth toothing of the third cylindrical pinion and the fourth cylindrical pinion having the same number of teeth and the same diameter, a double-toothed face gear (38) mounted between and respectively meshing with the sets of teeth toothing of the third cylindrical pinion and the fourth cylindrical pinion, the double-toothed face gear being able to rotate about a second shaft which forms an angle with the first shaft, wherein the double-toothed face gear (38) is provided with a coupling teeth toothing (39) for slideably coupling the rotation of the double-toothed face gear (38) to the rotation of the second shaft, and the direction of the coupling teeth toothing being is perpendicular to a the plane of the coupling teeth sets of toothing of the double-toothed face gear.
- 2. The gear transmission as claimed in claim 1, wherein the double-toothed face gear is designed as has the shape of a large-ring with the face-gear teeth toothing on either sides thereof and with the coupling teeth toothing on an the internal diameter.
- 3. The gear transmission as claimed in claim 2, wherein the internal diameter of the sets of face-gear teeth toothing of the double-toothed face gear more or less corresponds to an the internal diameter of the large-ring.

Page 5 Serial No. 09/992,509 March 15, 2002

- 4. The gear transmission as claimed in claim 1_{-7} or 3_{-7} wherein the length of the coupling toothing is greater than half the width of the <u>sets of face gear teeth sets of toothing</u> of the double-toothed face gear.
- 5. The gear transmission as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the sets of face gear teeth sets of toothing of the double-toothed face gear match one another, and the tooth-spaces between the teeth and the teeth are symmetrical with respect to a plane which lies centrally between the sets of teeth of the face gear teethtoothing.
- 6. The gear transmission as claimed in one of claims claim 2_-5, wherein the large ring has a thickness of at least four times the tooth height of one of the sets of teeth toothing of the double-toothed face gear.
- 7. The gear transmission as claimed in <u>claim 1 one of the preceding claims</u>, wherein the third and fourth cylindrical pinions (5) and the double-toothed face gear (38) are helically toothed, and the third and fourth pinions are both <u>either</u> right-hand or left-hand pinions.
- 8. The gear transmission as claimed in <u>claim 1</u> one of the preceding claims, wherein the cylindrical pinions (5,6) are helically toothed, and the first and second cylindrical pinions have the same direction as the third and fourth cylindrical pinions when mounted on the same shaft are right-hand pinions when the third and fourth cylindrical pinions mounted on the same shaft are right-hand pinions, and are left-hand pinions when the third and fourth cylindrical pinions are left-hand pinions.
- 9. The gear transmission as claimed in claim 8, wherein the pitches of cylindrical pinions mounted on the same shaft are is-identical.

Page 6 Serial No. 09/992,509 March 15, 2002

10. The gear transmission as claimed in $\underline{\text{claim 1}}$ one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the double-toothed face gear (38) is $\underline{\text{mounted}}$ slideably $\underline{\text{mounted}}$ on $\underline{\text{a}}$ the-housing of a differential of a vehicle.